

Volume 472 April 18, 2013

**Market-** Natural gas futures traded higher again this week as cold weather across the northern areas of the country and natural gas generation in warm southern areas of the country support demand and prices. There was an injection into storage reported this week and rig counts are increasing. Prices are rising today. The once over-supply of gas in storage is now at average levels as seen on the graph to the right; storage this year is below last year levels and below the five-year average. The US gas traditional rig count was an increase this week of 2 and horizontal drilling increased 18 rigs. Gas production levels due mostly to shale drilling are still strong. Natural gas is very attractive to fix at this time as prices are trending up again.

The Crude oil price for May is lower this week at \$87.89 per barrel. Heating oil is lower at \$2.77 per gal. Unleaded gasoline futures are lower this week at \$2.70 and gasoline at the pump is around \$3.49...in Indiana. The natural gas storage report this week was an injection of 31BCF; storage is **794BCF lower** than last year and **74CF lower** than the 5 year average.



Above Graph – May 2013 NYMEX gas futures

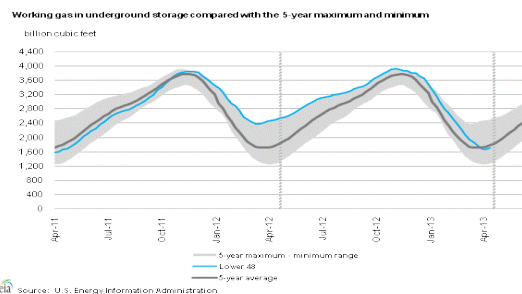
### Extended Temperature Forecast: Chicago Area

	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
High	66	47	49	58	64
Low	36	32	35	43	47

### Storage Statistics: (BCF) Billion Cubic Ft

This Week	Last Year	5 Year Ave.
1,704	2,498	1,778

The total is an increase of 31 BCF from last week.



Above Graph - Storage levels as of April 18

### Comparative Fuels: Futures Prices for May

	Price	Compared to Nat Gas
Natural Gas (therm)	<b>\$.4377</b>	<b>\$.4377</b>
Propane (gal)	<b>\$.927</b>	<b>\$1.011</b>
Crude Oil (barrel)	<b>\$87.89</b>	
Heating Oil (gal)	<b>\$2.77</b>	<b>\$1.99</b>
Unleaded Gas (gal)	<b>\$2.70</b>	

### North American Traditional Nat. Gas Rig Count:

This week	377
Last week	375
Year Ago this week	624

### US Horizontal Rig Count:

This week	1102
Last week	1084
Year Ago this week	1145

NGI Chicago for Apr 2013 **\$.4170**

